PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

09-10

MINISTRY OF
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS

MINISTRY PLAN FOR 2009-10

Statement from the Minister

Saskatchewan's relationships with the federal government and other jurisdictions and organizations beyond our borders can have a tremendous impact -- both positive and negative -- on our province and the lives of the people who live here.

Through the effective management of those relationships, my Ministry is delivering on our Government's plan for Securing the Future. I present to you, within these pages, my Ministry's Plan for 2009-10. In this Plan we identify how the Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs aligns with Government's vision for a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan, leading the country in economic and population growth, while providing opportunity for a high quality of life for all.

I will report on this Plan and my Mandate Letter commitments in the Ministry's annual report.

The Honourable Bill Boyd
Minister Responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs

Mission Statement

The Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs advances the government's goals and objectives, and acts to minimize risks to these goals and objectives, through managing the province's relations with other governments and associated organizations in Canada and abroad.

Response to Government Direction

Ministry Plans for 2009-10 align with Government's vision and goals and the key priorities for 2009-10, as presented in the Government Direction for 2009-10. The 2009-10 Plan communicates a high-level framework for the Ministry's activities over the coming year and reflects the Ministry's primary areas of focus. Together, all ministries support Government's three goals, working towards a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan.

Strategies and Actions

Government Goal – Economic Growth

Sustain Economic Growth for the benefit of Saskatchewan people, ensuring the economy is ready for growth and positioning Saskatchewan to meet the challenges of economic and population growth and development.

Strategy	Key 2009-10 Actions
Develop and implement Saskatchewan-US and Saskatchewan-International engagement strategies	• Deliver missions in order to strengthen relationships with influential decision makers within the US Administration, Congress and key Border States. • Support the achievement of a new carbon capture and storage partnership with the State of Montana through coordinating high level missions led by the Premier to advance these issues. • Coordinate missions led by the Premier to promote Saskatchewan as a secure and clean source of energy. • Oppose protectionist initiatives in the United States through high-level advocacy led by the Premier. • Host the winter meeting of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region. • Organize and deliver a Premier-led mission to China and Japan.
Further open markets for Saskatchewan goods, services and investment	• Conclude discussions with Alberta and British Columbia to identify options to strengthen regional trade. • Conclude negotiations on full labour mobility in Canada, as well as new Agreement on Internal Trade chapters on energy and agriculture. • Seek to further open markets for key Saskatchewan goods, such as agricultural goods, in international negotiations.
Advance Saskatchewan's interests in trade disputes	• Diminish the impact of protectionist US agriculture policies on Saskatchewan producers and processors (e.g., lobby for reasonable implementation of US country-of-origin labelling rules). • Protect against any US allegations that Saskatchewan is contravening trade rules (e.g., NAFTA, Canada-US Lumber Agreement 2006) as Canada and Saskatchewan implement economic growth initiatives.
Build a stronger West and a stronger Canada through leadership in relations with other provinces	• Deliver a study on competitiveness in Western Canada that will identify strategic opportunities to strengthen the western economy. • Chair the Council of the Federation (the forum of all Canadian Premiers) through 2009-10. • Lead development of a Council of the Federation plan to drive innovation, invest in people and build infrastructure to ensure Canada emerges stronger out of the recession. • Partner with Alberta to host a symposium on carbon capture and storage technologies. • Work with Alberta and British Columbia to reduce gang-related violence.

Government Goal – Promises

Keep Government's **Promises** and fulfill the commitments of the election, operating with integrity and transparency, accountable to the people of Saskatchewan.

Strategy	Key 2009-10 Actions
Advance Saskatchewan's interests with Canada	• Coordinate advocacy with the federal government to ensure that federal infrastructure investments flow quickly to the province. • Advocate a national focus on technological solutions to climate change, such as carbon capture and storage, in particular to ensure that any continental plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions allows Saskatchewan's economy to continue to grow. • Secure a consensus on aggressive timelines to make environmental assessment more effective by eliminating federal-provincial duplication.

Performance Measures

Intergovernmental Affairs assists the work of other ministries in advancing the priorities of Government, either through supporting the Premier's intergovernmental activities or by advising ministries directly. The Ministry does not typically manage programs or files on a long-term basis. Given the support function, contributions of this Ministry are embedded in the reporting by other ministries.

Intergovernmental Affairs will continue to report on specific actions undertaken in particular years through key action reporting.

Financial Summary

Highlights of Appropriation and Expense 2009-10

2009-10 Estimates	(Thousands of $)
Central Management and Services	904
Intergovernmental Relations	3,110
Ministry Operations Appropriation	**4,014**
Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
Capital Asset Amortization	--
Total Appropriation	**4,014**
FTE Staff Complement	26.2

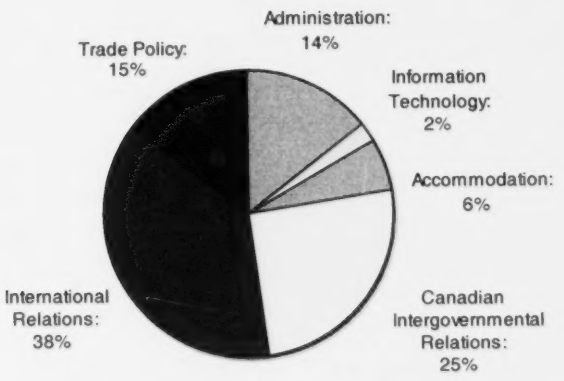
For more information, see the Budget Estimates at:
http://www.finance.gov.sk.ca/budget/2009-10

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The following are key highlights from the 2009-10 Budget:

- Canada-US Engagement Strategy - $433,000 to deliver missions to strengthen relationships with the US, to promote Saskatchewan as a secure and clean source of energy, and oppose protectionist US initiatives.
- Council of the Federation (COF) - $20,000 to chair the forum and lead the development of a COF plan to drive innovation, invest in people and build infrastructure.

Ministry Spending by Subprogram



For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at www.gov.sk.ca/intergovernmental-affairs for more information on the Ministry's programs and services. For additional information about Intergovernmental Affairs, or to provide feedback about our 2009-10 Plan or performance results, please contact us at (306) 787-2635.